Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of locking a resource in a distributed environment communicating in a Distributed Authoring and Versioning (DAV) protocol, wherein the DAV protocol is an extension of Hypertext Markup Language (HTTP), the method comprising:

receiving a request in the DAV protocol to access the resource, wherein the request originates from a requesting client computer system;

in response to the request, creating a lock having a predetermined type, wherein the predetermined type provides availability to other client computer systems for predetermined purposes;

returning a lock token upon the creation of the lock to the requesting client computer system; and

performing the requested access.

2. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1 wherein the request to access the resource provides an indication as to the type of access and to the type of lock to be created during the access, said method further comprising:

prior to the act of creating a lock, determining whether the resource is locked by another client computer system; and wherein

the act of creating a lock only occurs if no existing lock conflicts with the type of access requested or the type of lock requested.

3. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1 wherein the predetermined type of the lock provides other client computer systems access to the resource for the purpose of reading the resource.

4. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1 wherein the predetermined type of the lock provides other client computer systems access to the resource for the purpose of writing the resource.

5. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1 wherein the predetermined type of the lock provides other client computer systems access to the resource for the purpose of deleting the resource.

6. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1 wherein the predetermined type of the lock provides other client computer systems access to the resource for the purpose of two of the following: reading, deleting and writing the resource.

7. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 1 wherein more than one client computer system can lock the resource.

8. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1 wherein the requesting client computer system requests the type of lock to be created and a server computer system creates and maintains the lock.

9. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1 wherein the lock is advisory.

10. (Previously Presented) A computer program product encoded upon a computer readable medium readable by a computer and encoding instructions for executing the method recited in claim 1.

11. (Currently Amended) A method of maintaining an advisory lock on a resource in a distributed environment communicating in a Distributed Authoring and Versioning (DAV) protocol, wherein the DAV protocol is an extension of Hypertext Markup Language (HTTP), the method comprising:

receiving an access request in the DAV protocol for the resource from a requesting client computer system;

determining whether the resource is locked by another computer system;

if the resource is locked by another computer system with a conflicting advisory lock then denying access if the requesting client computer system honors advisory locks; and

if the requesting client computer system does not honor the advisory lock or if the resource is not locked with a conflicting lock, then creating a lock, returning a lock token upon creation of the lock, and performing the access.

12. (Previously Presented) A computer program product encoded upon a computer readable medium readable by a computer and encoding instructions for executing the method recited in claim 11.

13. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having stored thereon a locked resource accessed with Distributed Authoring and Versioning (DAV) protocol messages, wherein the DAV protocol is an extension of Hypertext Markup Language (HTTP), wherein the locked resource comprises:

a resource object data section for storing actual object data; and

a lock object, wherein the lock object [[may]] comprises ~~one or more of the following properties: nosharewrite,~~ the property of nosharedelete~~, noshareread, and advisory~~.

14. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 13, wherein the lock object further comprises a nosharewrite property.

15. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 13, wherein the lock object further comprises a noshareread property.

16. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 13, wherein the lock object further comprises an advisory property.

17. (New) The method of claim 11, wherein creating the lock further comprises creating the lock with a nosharedelete property.

18. (New) The method of claim 11, wherein creating the lock further comprises creating the lock with a noshareread property.

19. (New) The method of claim 11, wherein creating the lock further comprises creating the lock with a nosharewrite property.

20. (New) The method of claim 11, wherein determining whether the resource is locked by another computer system further comprises determining whether the resource is locked with a property in accord with a lock type associated with the access request.